

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 29, 2005. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended, claim 11 has been canceled, and claims 12-20 have been added. Claims 1-10 and 12-20 are presently pending. No new matter has been added.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 6, 7, and 10 would be allowable if rewritten as independent claims.

§102 Rejections

Claims 1-5, 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,577,075 to Cotton et al. (hereinafter "Cotton"). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cotton. Applicants traverse these rejections.

The Applicants have amended claims 1 and 5 to include a feedback signal that is in-phase with the first timing signal from an initial timing source. When the initial timing source fails, a first timing signal is then provided from a second timing source. The feedback signal is then reset prior to the first and second timing signals being realigned, so that it is in-phase with the first timing signal from the second timing source. A feedback signal that operates in this manner is not taught or suggested by Cotton.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1 and 5 are patentable over the cited references. Dependent claims 2-4 and 7-10 are patentable for at least the same reasons as independent claims 1 and 5. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of these claims.

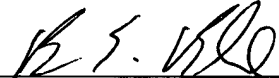
Independent claim 12 recites a unit coupled to the selection unit for comparing the phase of the first timing signal after switching to the second timing source to the phase of the second timing signal. The unit is arranged to receive a signal from the detection unit after failure of the first timing signal. Cotton does not teach or suggest such a unit and, in particular, does not teach or

suggest such a unit which receives a signal from the detection unit. For at least this reason, claim 12, as well as claims 13-20, is patentable over the cited reference.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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